



May 25, 2012

This Week:

- Community meetings – mark your calendars!
- WSDOT Extra Mile Awards
- Preferred site selected for new Mukilteo ferry terminal
- North Mason Chamber of Commerce briefing
- Memorial Day ferry travel
- American Public Works Association luncheon
- Ferry tale
- Customer compliment

Community meetings – mark your calendars!

We held three community meetings this week in Southworth, Vashon Island, and Bremerton. I appreciate the customers and community members who took the time to attend. I want to say a special thanks to the representatives from King County's [Barton Pump Station Upgrade Project](#) who attended the Southworth and Vashon Island meetings to talk about construction plans and the [Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Project](#) representative for presenting and answering questions at our Bremerton meeting. Our next meetings are Kingston (Tuesday, June 5) and the San Juan Islands (Thursday, June 7). For a full list of meeting dates, locations and materials, visit the community meetings [Web page](#).

WSDOT Extra Mile Awards

The 202-car Puyallup fuel savings team was selected as a recipient of the [2012 Extra Mile Award](#). The team, including Captain John Tullis, retired Captain Bill Chapple and Staff Chief Engineer Mark Nitchman, was recognized by Secretary of Transportation Paula Hammond and Secretary of State Sam Reed for their excellent and innovative work to conserve fuel on the Edmonds/Kingston route. As a result of their efforts, WSF was able to conserve fuel without sacrificing on-time performance or the WSF commitment to customer service. The team's careful analysis and recommendation for the change in operations on the route has resulted in saving 15,000 gallons of fuel per month, or 180,000 gallons per year for both vessels on the Edmonds/Kingston route. At today's prices, this is a savings of \$720,000 per year. Please join me in applauding their efforts!

Preferred site selected for new Mukilteo ferry terminal

On Monday, we announced that the aging ferry terminal at Mukilteo should be replaced with a new terminal one-third of a mile to the east. This preferred alternative was selected based on public, agency and tribal comments received on the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) released in January 2012. The preferred alternative, known as [Elliot Point 2](#), would best avoid environmental impacts and it addresses problems at the current terminal at the foot of Front Street and SR 525. These include a 60-year-old dock in need of significant repairs and upgrading, inadequate passenger connections between the ferry and nearby commuter rail and transit facilities, and pedestrian and vehicle conflicts. We have worked for several years with ferry riders, community members, elected officials, tribes and others to get to this point, which moves us one step closer to building a new Mukilteo ferry terminal. A final EIS will be completed by WSF and the Federal Transit Administration in spring 2013. As the design and environmental review continues, the preferred alternative will continue to be refined. For more information, visit the project [Web page](#).

North Mason Chamber of Commerce briefing

On Wednesday, I had the pleasure to speak to the North Mason Chamber of Commerce at the Bremerton Conference Center. I provided an overview of the state ferry system and answered questions. Since the ferry system has a significant economic impact on the west side of Puget Sound, I very much appreciated the opportunity to meet with the chamber's membership.

Memorial Day ferry travel

Customers are advised to plan for heavy traffic and long wait times during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. Most routes are operating on their normal schedules, with the following exceptions:

- Anacortes/San Juan Islands:
 - Friday: extra sailing from Anacortes to Orcas at 2:05 p.m.
 - Monday: extra sailing from Orcas to Anacortes at 3:15 p.m.
 - Sunday and Monday: the 2:15 p.m. sailing from Friday Harbor and the 3:05 p.m. sailing from Lopez will sail to Anacortes.
- Mukilteo/Clinton route will be on a holiday (Sunday) schedule on Monday, May 28
- Seattle/Bainbridge route will be on a holiday (Saturday) schedule on Monday, May 28
- Point Defiance/Tahlequah route will be on a holiday (weekend) schedule on Monday, May 28

For information specific to your route, please read the [ferry alert bulletins](#).

American Public Works Association luncheon

On Tuesday, I attended a luncheon where Secretary Paula Hammond was recognized by the American Public Works Association as an outstanding public works leader for her career at WSDOT. The luncheon was an opportunity to recognize her extraordinary efforts.

Ferry tale

Read the latest ferry tales on our blog: [Memorial Day weekend ferry rescue](#) and [Memorial "an unforgettable welcome"](#)

Customer compliment

Last Friday I received a compliment from a customer of the Seattle/Bremerton ferry route. I want to thank the Kaleetan crew and Bremerton terminal staff for their efficiency and excellent customer service in dealing with this unexpected service disruption.

I was one of many commuters who boarded the Kaleetan Ferry on the 6:20am run out of Bremerton on Thursday, May 17th when mechanical failure resulted in the cancellation of the run. It meant that all of the cars had to be backed off the ferry. I figured this would take so much time we'd miss the next run. To my surprise the WSF workers methodically backed out one lane which then allowed everyone else to simply make a U-turn and get off the ferry. As I left the boat I asked a worker if we'd make the next ferry. He said, "yep, just stay in line and we'll get everyone on." The 7:20 run was a few minutes late departing, but we pulled into Seattle only a few minutes later than the normal arrival time. I just want to thank the WSF workers for handling the unexpected problem so quickly and efficiently.

Next Week:

- Local leadership training
- Annual leave

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

To unsubscribe, reply to this message with "unsubscribe" in the subject of the e-mail.